

**Washington County DCFS Child Welfare
Quality Improvement Committee
Meeting Minutes
01 June 2015
12:00 1:00 p.m.**

Mission Statement:

The Washington County Quality Improvement Committee (QIC), working in partnership with the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), advocate for the client well-being by identifying areas of Improvement and promoting changes within the child welfare system

Attending: Craig Bunnell (Chair), Martha Beacco, Lori Orton, Karen Goff, Dave Ribacchi, Clint Cottam, Liz Labato, Tom Kelly, Julie Nelson, Tami Fullerton, Gordon Gunn,

Excused: Lori Short, Shirley Owen, Tyler Goddard,

There was no recording – Dead batteries.

Visitors: Clint Cottam

Introductions/News/Announcements:

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Committee Member Reports:

- A. CJC:
- B. C.A.S.A.: Introducing
- C. Utah Foster Care:
- D. DJJS: **Tami announced that there is a Summer Slam (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9-1) Youth ages 15-17 Capacity 50**
- E. School District:
- F. Community Members:
- G. DCFS:

AGENDA:

Clint Cottam - 5 counties (low income housing resources available to DCFS parents).

Clint is over the 5 county areas in Southern Utah (Washington, Iron, Kane, Beaver and Garfield).

They work with low income families who are 125% below the poverty line.

Resources go quickly.

There is a Federal Community Services Grant.

Key is for families to become Self Sufficient.

Is there a waiting list? Not at this time. Things are slowing down a bit.

Washington Co. received \$17,000.00 last year it was only \$8,000.00.

Iron Co. received \$11,000.00 so not as much.

Kane Co. \$2000.00

Beaver/Garfield Co. \$1500.00

Social Services Grant money by local government - \$72,000.00

The Grant is 18 months they try to follow the Calendar year. Starts in Oct. closer to January.

CSGB – HUD Guidelines. Families are placed in an apartment which accounts 30% of their income.

AAA fare credit. They can have a financial coach to help manage their money.

TANIF - would not allow with immigration status

They can serve people who are in our community.

Switchpoint is a big part of providing housing for families in our community.

If families have back debt or utilities debt makes it difficult to get housing, the need to pay back debt.

5 counties are trying to provide Safe and Stable Housing.

Bus Pass Vouchers – 5 counties have received re-direction with ST. George

Families/Clients with a monthly bus pass work for the voucher.

The problem was that Families/Clients were obtaining vouchers from DCFS, DWS, School and other resources to obtain bus passes. There was no accountability.

In order for clients to obtain a Sun Tram Bus Pass they will need to be set up with a case manager who will assist them and hold clients accountable.

Action Item – Kelly explore the refund and bus passes.

Flexible Gas Voucher – Are used to help clients get to work. Gas Vouchers are used when Bus transportation is unavailable and further then ¾ of a mile for voluntary program.

It also can help pay for someone to transport a client and reimburse them for gas usage.

Vocational Training – (not duplicating resources) what resources are best for people?

Voc Rehab – has a waiting list at this time and only serving those enrolled at this time.

Emergency Food Boxes are available if no other resource is available.

Housing – Reuniting Families is not the goal. Help to stabilize a family and moving in the right direction.

Independent Living – Social Services

- Foster Care
- Homeless (Single Ind.)
- Switchpoint (Families) TANIF

\$26,000.00 Garfield, Washington & Kane

Domestic Violence -

- Dove Center
- Canyon Creek

CSGB – can be used to help children be reunited with family

VITA Program – Taxes

- Moderate – Low Income Families
- Taxes for free

- Unearned tax credit
- It helps those who haven't filed this year or past years
- Get all that is due to a family
- Education piece (Case Management/Money Management)

ST. George has assisted 10% of tax assistance

- State 3%
- Nationwide 2%
- Better Marketing (You earn it, you keep it)

CSGB – to help families stay out of poverty

DWS – Offer 1 month services but need to show how they are going to pay next month, have to have a job. Liz LaBoto -DWS

Court Services –
Youth Programs –

Gordon Gunn announced that this will be his last meeting. (Unless Cedar allows him to attend as a partnership)....

Possible Agenda – Look at how Home Works is working and have a Guest come from the U of U. Matt (How, why and what they are seeing) Oct/Nov.

Craig asked the Committee to make any suggestions to Craig or Martha what information they would like to know.

DISMISS: 1:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: 03 Aug. 2015
NO QIC in July

Public Comments (brief mention of items that may be included on future agenda's)

QIC Website: QIC website at <http://www.utahqic.utah.gov/>. --Carol Miller

Report Child Abuse

24-Hour Reporting Hotline
1-855-323-3237